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) Art Unit: Unassigned

) Examiner: Unassigned

) PRELIMINARY
) AMENDMENT

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Dear Sirs:

- ☒ AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES: If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the following Communication (including but not limited to the payment of issue fees), they may be paid out of our deposit account No. 12-0064. If this payment also requires a Petition, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary Petition which is required to accompany the payment.
- ☐ Applicant herewith petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated _____ for _____ month(s) from _____ to _____. Submitted herewith is check No. _____ for \$_____ to cover the cost of the extension. If a check is lost, or otherwise does not accompany this Petition, please charge my deposit account number 12-0064 in the appropriate amount to cover the cost of the extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to the above numbered deposit account.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231 on:
Date: _____

REGISTRATION

Charles A. Laff	19787
J. Warren Whitesel	16830
Larry L. Saret	27674
Martin L. Stern	28911
Louis Altman	19373
Barry W. Sufrin	27398
Marshall W. Sutker	19995
Kevin C. Trock	37745
Jack R. Halvorsen	18394
William A. Meunier	41193
Lisa C. Childs	39937
Jeffrey H. Canfield	38404

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401 North Michigan Avenue
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

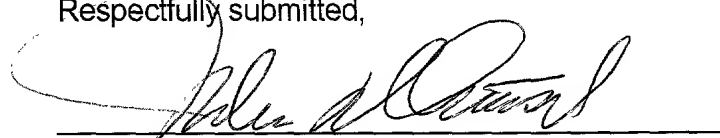
Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 4, line 1, change "4" to --3--.

Dated: 12/18/00

Respectfully submitted,



J. Warren Whitesel
Registration No. 16830
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